

CLAIMS

1. A reactivatable adhesive composition comprising an effective amount of an energy-absorbing ingredient such that upon exposure of the adhesive to radiant energy, the adhesive is activated.
2. The adhesive of claim 1 which is a hot melt adhesive.
3. The adhesive of claim 1 wherein said radiant energy has a wavelength of from about 400nm to about 100,000nm.
4. The adhesive of claim 1 wherein the energy-absorbing ingredient is dissolved in the adhesive composition.
5. The adhesive of claim 1 wherein the energy-absorbing ingredient is dispersed in the adhesive composition.
6. The adhesive of claim 4 wherein the energy-absorbing ingredient comprises an organic dye.
7. The adhesive of claim 5 wherein the energy-absorbing ingredient comprises a pigment.
8. The adhesive of claim 5 wherein the pigment is carbon black.
9. The adhesive of claim 5 wherein the pigment is graphite.
10. An adhesive which has been applied to at least a portion of a first substrate and

allowed to solidify, said adhesive being reactivatable upon exposure to radiant energy whereupon the adhesive is capable of bonding the first substrate to a second substrate, said adhesive comprising an effective amount of an energy-absorbing ingredient sensitive to said radiant energy.

11. A process for bonding at least a first substrate to at least a second substrate, wherein at least a portion of at least one of said substrates has applied thereon the adhesive of claim 1, said method comprising irradiating the applied adhesive with radiant energy for a time sufficient to melt the adhesive, bringing one of said substrates in contact with the melted adhesive on the other substrate, and allowing the adhesive to solidify thereby bonding the first substrate to the second substrate.

12. A method of closing a container having applied on at least one surface substrate thereof the reactivatable adhesive of claim 1, said method comprising exposing the reactivatable adhesive of claim 1 to radiant energy for a time sufficient to melt said adhesive, bringing a second surface substrate in contact with the reactivated adhesive on the first surface substrate and, optionally, applying pressure to effect said closing.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein pressure is applied for less than about 30 seconds.

14. The method of claim 12 where the adhesive is exposed to said radiant energy for less than about 5 seconds.

12. An article of manufacture comprising the adhesive of claim 1.

13. The article of claim 12 wherein said article is a container.

14. The article of claim 13 wherein the container is a case, carton, try or bag.
15. The article of claim 12 wherein said article is nonwoven absorbant article.
16. The article of claim 15 wherein the absorbant article is a diaper.